

P23864.A03



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant

Tsuyoshi MAEDA

Mail Stop Issue Fee

Confirmation No.: 6448

Serial No

10/633,541

Examiner: James D. SELLS

Filed

August 5, 2003

Group Art Unit: 1734

For

SHEET-AFFIXING DEVICE AND SHEET-SUPPLYING DEVICE

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Notice of Allowability, mailed by the Patent and Trademark Office on February 4, 2004, and to the Statement of Reasons for Allowance attached thereto, Applicant wishes to clarify the record with respect to the basis for the patentability of claims in the present application. In this regard, while Applicant does not disagree with the Examiner's indication that certain identified features are not disclosed by the references, Applicant submits that each of the claims in the present application recite a particular combination of features, and that the basis for patentability of each of these claims is based on the totality of the particular features recited therein.

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Should there be any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

> Respectfully submitted, Tsuyoshi MAEDA

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